

KENTUCKY SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA NEWS

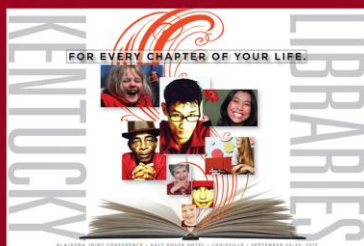
A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR
KENTUCKY SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS

Upcoming Conferences



KSMA Summer Refresher
Bowling Green High
July 17

Online registration available May 1
Click [here](#)



KSMA Fall Conference
"Kentucky Libraries – For Every
Chapter of Your Life"
September 20-22
Louisville



KY Reading Association Conference
October 18-20
Lexington



The Kentucky Department of Education encourages reading year round to prepare students for college and career opportunities, as well as for a lifetime of reading for fun. One way to encourage students to read through the summer months is to promote Kentucky's Summer Reading Programs at local public libraries. The impact of summer learning loss is well [documented](#), but school librarians can be a part of changing those statistics by providing opportunities for students in their schools to participate in free Summer Reading Programs. Contact the children's librarian at your local public library for details about the programs in your area and to obtain free materials to distribute to students before the school year ends.

2012 Summer Reading Program Themes

Early Literacy Program (new this year): **Dream Big: Read!**

Children's Program: **Dream Big: Read!**

Teen Program: **Own the Night**

Adult Program: **Between the Covers**

Suggested Activities:

- Invite public library staff to visit an assembly at your school to promote Summer Reading Programs.
- Plan "launch parties" to celebrate the start of the summer reading season.
- Help students create summer reading lists by using [Find a Book, KY](#).
- Assist students in completing the "Summer Reading Pledge" at [Find a Book, KY](#) (new feature this year!).

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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TAYLOR COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LAUNCHES E-BOOK PROGRAM

Tana Penn, Taylor County High library media specialist, shares her experiences this year delving into e-books in her library media program:

Taylor County schools began their e-library this school year using Overdrive. I had wanted to include e-books in our collection, but I didn't want to purchase devices and download e-books onto devices. To me that was not the way to go with e-books. I wanted an e-library so our students could use their own devices to check out e-books from a virtual library. Our e-library is open 24-7. It is never closed. It has opened up so many opportunities for our students at Taylor County. The district allows personal devices to be used during school hours for educational purposes. This allows students to download books during the school day and read anytime they have free time. It's wonderful!

I contacted Overdrive (<http://www.overdrive.com/Solutions/Schools/K12/SDL/>) and had absolutely no problems setting everything up. My rep helped me design the school's website. She was so helpful. The basic initial startup fee for a school is \$4,000. That price will cover a yearly tech fee of \$2,000 and provide you with your choice of \$2,000 of e-books. With the \$4,000 fee, libraries can include up to 2000 patrons. You may purchase more e-books if you would like. Each year you must pay this yearly fee and build your virtual e-library up by adding to your collection which Overdrive manages for you. Taylor County pays a yearly fee of \$6,000 and includes all schools allowing 4000 patrons to use the service. That fee covers \$3,000 in tech support and \$3,000 in e-books. Our three schools share this expense. Overdrive does all of the work keeping all of the records for you. They have all kinds of great reports too.



Librarian Tana Penn works with a student

Currently we have 1,563 titles in our collection (59 are audio titles and 1,504 are e-books). We've had close to 3,000 checkouts so far this school year. Students are checking out titles on their own devices that include phones, Android devices, iPods, computers, laptops, Kindles, Nooks, and more. I can look at reports and see days and times of checkouts. We have students checking out books on Friday/Saturday at 1 and 3 a.m. I love it! Our kids are reading like crazy. We are experiencing a reading renaissance at Taylor County. The Taylor County Board of Education gave the schools \$15,000 to spend on e-books this past fall. Plus each of our schools has spent more than the required yearly fee on e-books. So we have over \$20,000 in e-books built up in our virtual library as a result. What is needed to check out a book from the virtual library? Three things: a library ID; a device; and Internet access. Overdrive Media Console App or Kindle App is used for this library. No app is necessary for use with a Kindle. All software is free and on the site for easy installation.

Some of the most popular titles being checked out are *Heaven is for Real*, *Maze Runner*, *Death Cure*, *Crossed*, *Matched*, *The Last Song*, *Best of Me*, *Hunger Games*, *The Abduction* and *Chain Reaction*. Overdrive has a great selection with over 800,000 titles to choose from. The best advice I would give anyone getting started with Overdrive would be this—do it! My advice concerning e-readers would be to use Kindles; Nooks require Adobe to be downloaded onto a computer and then transfer the title. With a Kindle you can download wirelessly anywhere, anytime. What I am seeing with our students at Taylor County High School is students want to read on their phones and iPods. They are reading more with this technology, and I think this is simply because they have their devices with them all of the time. Whenever they have spare time, they are READING.

For more information, contact Tana Penn: tana.penn@taylor.kyschools.us.

Kentucky's students must be able to read increasingly complex texts to succeed in college or careers.



"A student should be able to choose what he or she wants to read, regardless of whether that book or article is in his or her recommended Lexile range."
MetaMetrics President Malbert Smith

WEB TOOL WEDNESDAYS AT DAVIESS COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Katie Albers, Daviess County Middle library media specialist, shares her experience providing Web tools for teachers:

This is my second year as a library media specialist and second year at Daviess County Middle School. The idea for **Web Tool Wednesday** came to me after attending the Library Media Education & Literacy Education Summer Conference at Western Kentucky University in 2010. At this event I collected dozens of great resources for teachers to use in their classrooms, but I felt overwhelmed by all the suggestions. I was soon to be beginning my career as a media specialist after four years in the classroom, so I knew that my teachers would feel overwhelmed as well if I just sent them a list of 30 Web resources to explore. So, rather than bombard my teachers with all of my new-found knowledge at once, I decided to highlight the very best tools one at a time in an email each week so that there was a greater chance that the teachers would actually look at them. This also gave me the time and opportunity to explore the tools for myself so that if a teacher had a question, I could be of assistance. And so **Web Tool Wednesday** was born.



Librarian Katie Albers offers Web tools for staff

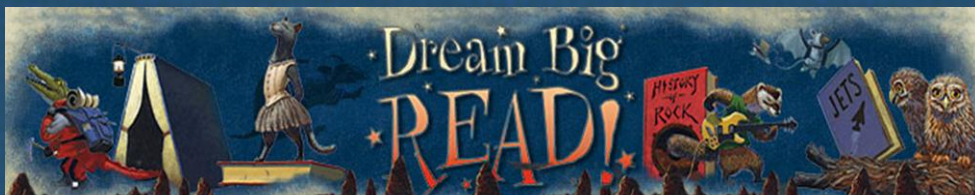
I find Web tools to feature in lots of different places: conferences, the KYLMS Listserv, technology blogs and even sometimes by simply searching Google. Most of the tools that I feature are used for researching or presenting information, but I also include tools that might help teachers organize everything more easily. After featuring the tool in e-mail format, I attach a link to the tool on the [homepage](#) of my library catalog for future reference.

The teachers at my school have been very pleased and appreciative of the **Web Tool Wednesday** e-mails. In fact, it seems that someone from my school is forwarding the e-mails around the district, and other schools are enjoying them as well. However, I believe the most important result of **Web Tool Wednesday** is not learning about new technology tools, but building relationships between the Media Center and all of the content areas in our school. This one act of service reminds the teachers every week that they have a media specialist who is willing and available to assist them in reaching the highest standards of learning.

For more information, contact Katie Albers: katie.albers@daviess.kyschools.us.

“Google can bring you back 100,000 answers, a librarian can bring you back the right one.”

Author Neil Gaiman



FEATURED BLOG POST

The Teacher Report: 5 Excuses Kids Give for Not Reading (and Ways to Respond)
Click [here](#).

FEATURED DIGITAL WRITING TOOL

Create Photo Stories with RealeWriter. Click [here](#).

FEATURED APP, BOOK, AND FILM

The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore (Moonbot Studios)
Click [here](#).

FEATURED VIDEO

Using Children's Books to Practice Literacy Skills (Grades 9-12) Click [here](#).
From [Teaching Channel](#)

FEATURED WEB SITE

CyberSmart!
Free K-12 Digital Literacy and Citizenship Curriculum
Click [here](#).

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RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT**Character Trading Cards**

Character Trading Cards [Student Interactive](#)
Character Trading Cards [Planning Sheet](#)
Character Trading Card [Sample](#) for
The Legend of the Bluebonnet
Character Trading Card [Rubric](#)



Lesson: "Sharing Favorite Books Using Interactive Character Trading Cards"

Creating trading cards for their favorite story characters will challenge children to think more deeply about what they read or even watch in movies or on television. By answering a series of questions, children zero in on what's obvious and not so obvious about a character. Not only will they describe the character's appearance and actions, but also probe for thoughts, feelings and motivations. The cards also offer a chance for children to consider their own impressions: What is likeable or not likeable about a character and what personal connections might children make? (*ReadWriteThink* resource description)

Lesson: "Planning Story Characters Using Interactive Trading Cards"

This lesson uses trading cards to support students' literacy development in planning for writing. Using an online, interactive Character Trading Cards tool, students first explore the way that the questions on it apply to a character in a familiar story. Students then use the tool to plan a character's development. An extension for this lesson is to have students use these cards to write their own stories. (*ReadWriteThink* resource description)

Example of Library Media Standard supported: 2.1.4: Use technology and other information tools to analyze and organize information.

Example of ELA standard supported: RL.4.3: Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

Kentucky Statutes Referencing School Media Librarians

KRS 158.102 Certified librarian required for each school; Library Media Center required for each school

KRS 160.345 Section 2 (g) School media librarian consulted on the maintenance of the school library media center, including the purchase of instructional materials, information technology, and equipment

Did you know?

Kentucky Reading Journal (a publication of the Kentucky Reading Association) is now available online. Click [here](#) for the Fall 2011 issue.

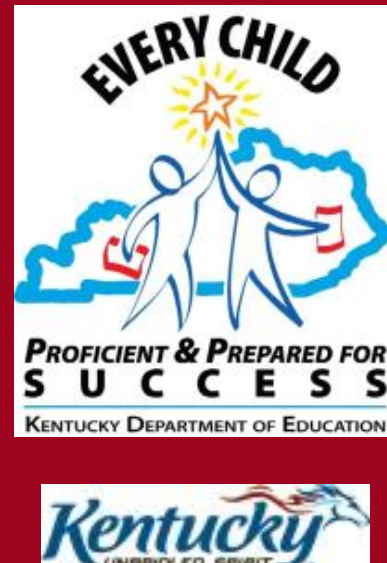
LINKS OF INTEREST

KY School Library Media News Archives

Volume 1, Issue 1: [Fall 2009](#)
 Volume 1, Issue 2: [Winter 2010](#)
 Volume 1, Issue 3: [Spring 2010](#)
 Volume 2, Issue 1: [Summer 2010](#)
 Volume 2, Issue 2: [Fall 2010](#)
 Volume 2, Issue 3: [Winter 2011](#)
 Volume 2, Issue 4: [Spring 2011](#)
 Volume 3, Issue 1: [Summer 2011](#)
 Volume 3, Issue 2: [Fall 2011](#)
 Volume 3, Issue 3: [Winter 2012](#)

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Library Media
Specialists LISTSERV:
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from **Thinkfinity**.
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Professional Organizations

Kentucky School Media Association (KSMA)
www.kysma.org

Kentucky Library Association (KLA)
www.kylibasn.org/

American Association of School Librarians (AASL)
www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl

American Library Association (ALA)
www.ala.org

Kentucky Reading Association (KRA)
www.kyreading.org

KDE Content Area Newsletters

[Arts and Humanities](#)

[Literacy Link](#)

[Science Elementary](#)

[Science Middle School](#)

[Science High School](#)

Kentucky Virtual Library ([KYVL](#))



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- [Characteristics of Highly Effective Teaching & Learning in the Library](#)
- [Library Media Program Rubric](#)
- [Sample Evaluation Tool for School Media Librarian](#)
- [Standards for the 21st-Century Learner](#)